Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 12760 051451Z

53

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20

COME-00 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06

SIL-01 OMB-01 INT-08 SCEM-02 SCI-06 STR-08 DRC-01

/243 W

----- 034903

R 051400Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5041

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USINT CAIRO

USINT ALGIERS

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

UNCLAS BEIRUT 12760

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ETRN, XF

SUBJECT: EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN PIPLINES NEAR NORMAL

REF: BEIRUT 12631

1. WAR-DAMAGED BANIAS TERMINAL OF IRAQ (FORMERLY IPC) PIPLINE RESUMED OPERATION UNEXPECTEDLY NOV 3, PERMITTING SYSTEM'S THROUGHPUT TO BOTH BANIAS AND TRIPOLI TO INCREASE TO ABOUT ONE MILLION BARRELS DAILY, JUST BELOW UNCLASSIFIED

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RATED CAPACITY. SINCE ONLY NINE OF BANIAS' 24 STORAGE

TANKS SURVIVED, OPERATIONS THERE EXPECTED TO BE IRREGULAR FOR SOME TIME BUT PIPLINE OPERATORS BELIEVE IT POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN DAILY EXPORTS AT ONE MILLION BBL LEVEL. SHIPS WILL CALL FIRST AT TRIPOLI AND BE DIVERTED TO BANIAS WHEN IT CAN ACCOMMODATE THEM.

- 2. TAPLINE REPORTS SEVERAL SHIPS IN OR EXPECTED, CONSIDERS THAT ITS OPERATIONS ARE BACK TO NORMAL ALTHOUGH THROUGHPUT WILL REMAIN BELOW CAPACITY UNTIL STOCKS REDUCED TO NORMAL LEVEL.
- 3. ACCORDING MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY (MEES) OF NOV 2, NEW POSTED PRICES IN EFFECT FOR PIPELINE CRUDEE SINCE OCT 16. THEY ARE: IRAQ 36-DEGREE \$7.213 BBL (FORMERLY \$4.243), SAUDI 34-DEGREE \$7.149 (VS \$4.205).
- 4. COMMENT: BAD WEATHER HALTED PIPLINE EXPORTS NOV 3-5 BUT THERE NO INDICATION OF POLITICAL EXPORT REDUCTIONS FOR EITHER PIPLINE. BUFFUM

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

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Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 05 NOV 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a

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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:

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Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN PIPLINES NEAR NORMAL

TAGS: ENRG, ETRN, XF

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005